

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Methods for prioritizing documents, such as email messages, is disclosed. In one embodiment, a computer-implemented method first receives a document. The method assigns a measure of priority to the document, by employing a text classifier such as a Bayesian classifier or a support-vector machine classifier. The method then outputs the priority. In one embodiment, the method includes alerting the user about a document, such as an email message, based on the expected loss associated with delays expected in reviewing the document as compared to the expected cost of distraction and transmission incurred with alerting the user about the document.

10

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post
Office to addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in
an envelope addressed to The Assistant
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC
20231 on. 7-30-99 date, by
M. DRYJA printed name
Qua v. [signature] signature
EJ 168 316 655 US
"express mail" mailing
label #